



the RARA RAG

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March Meeting Announcement

By Jim DiTucci, N2IXD
Vice-President, RARA

The February joint meeting with the Rochester DX Association was a tremendous success. Close to 80 of your friends were in attendance as RARA joined in the RDXA 60th Anniversary celebration. A note of "thanks" to Ed Gable, K2MP, and Chris Shalvoy, K2CS for their interesting trip down memory lane describing the role early members of the RDXA played in pushing the boundaries of DX. Today the RDXA is a premier club that has gained national recognition for its dedication to "all things DX." RARA is proud to support the efforts of the RDXA and congratulates them as they enjoy this milestone year-long celebration.

Speaking of DX... It doesn't get any better than this. Meet your friends at RARA on Friday, March 2. Don't miss this double treat! We will have two exciting presentations starting with the spectacular Ham Radio QSO between students at Sherman Elementary School in Henrietta and an astronaut on the International Space Station.

The possibility of a human space flight to Mars has been the focus of teacher Andrea Catena's fifth grade science pupils at Sherman Elementary School in Henrietta, New York. The youngsters expanded their knowledge of life in space when they spoke via ham radio January 8 with (Astronaut) Suni Williams. ARISS arranged the direct VHF contact between W2SKY at the school and NA1SS.

(March Meeting continued on page 2)

RaRa MEETING

March 2, 2007

7:30 P.M.

Henrietta Fire Hall #1

3129 East Henrietta Road

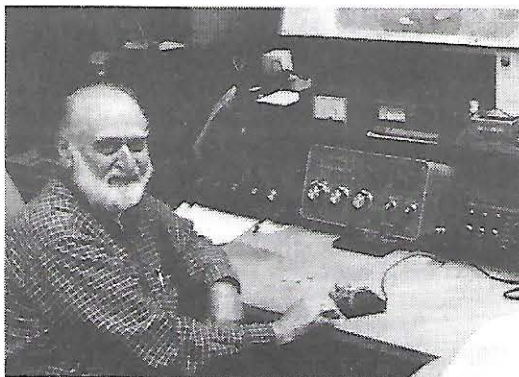
Peter Fournia, W2SKY & Jim Stefano,

W2COP on ARISS & Larry Lavery,

WW2J on Digital RTTY

Edwin J. Holdsworth N2EH 1930 – 2007

by Ed Gable, K2MP
Club Historian and friend



The greater Rochester Amateur Radio Community lost a legend this month with the passing of twice RaRa President Edwin J. Holdsworth, N2EH. Ed's contribution to RaRa was broad in coverage and encompassed some 35 years of tireless effort on behalf of the membership. He was a product of what would become one of his proudest contributions, that of Director of RaRa's Licensing classes. Ed graduated from the 1969 RaRa license course, then headed by someone who would become a life long friend, Robert Lauzon, K2RL. Now, as WN2EKR, he started what would become a trade mark in his amateur career. He thought if you got something, give something back. And he did. The very next year he became the assistant Licensing Course Director and promptly improved the cadre' of instructors, moved the classes to Westfall Road, and answered the emerging changes in FCC licensing requirements.

(N2EH continued on page 3)

SILENT KEYS

Edwin J. Holdsworth, N2EH

February 11, 2007

the RARA RAG

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RaRa Rag 2

The Prez Sez

By Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY

President, RARA

The environment changes. Everyone has heard me harping on this for a long time. The international world and now the FCC has officially announced that CW will not be one of the requirements for Amateur Radio licensing. I am a CW op, a member of FISTS & SKCC and CW is my favorite operating mode. I became a CW op because: (1) I needed several countries that were a lot easier to work on CW than on SSB over the last several years, and (2) With a set of earphones I could be on the air in the middle of the night and did not keep my family up shouting NEGATIVE NEGATIVE SUGAR XRAY YANKEE into the nearest mic. I could go into stealth mode right in my family room shack. I really enjoy 15-20 wpm in the Extra segment of 40 meters and I can be found around the FISTS frequencies too.

As hams (identity) we have many operating ideals (beliefs and values) about our modes of operation (capabilities and skills) that modify what we do (behavior) with the frequencies and privileges (environment) that we have. All of this points to our purpose, what we want to accomplish. Each of us has the responsibility to welcome the hams using their new privileges on the HF bands and help demonstrate leadership (hmmm, showing the way ??) and courtesy on the bands. Everyone of us has made mistakes while we were learning the ropes and everyone of us survived. Let's not have a lot of roadkill at this point; besides, in about five billion years the sun will collapse along with the planetary nebula and the QSL's and awards that I have instructed my wife to throw into the hole after me will all be gone in a supernova solar flash.

(March meeting continued from page 1)

Members of the Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA) set up the necessary Earth station equipment at the school to make the QSO possible. "We had an excellent ARISS experience at Emma Sherman Elementary School yesterday," said RARA Education Committee Chairman Pete Fournia, W2SKY, who loaned his call sign for the occasion. "The school took full advantage of this opportunity making it a very memorable experience for the entire school and a very gratifying experience for the teams that participated," he said. The youngsters squeezed 16 questions into the nearly 10-minute ISS pass. The ham radio event attracted generous media attention from newspapers and television stations.

ARISS is an international educational outreach with US participation by ARRL, AMSAT and

NASA. (Excerpts above by permission from the ARRL)

Peter Fournia, W2SKY, and Jim Stefano, W2COP, will be here to give you the inside story on this historic QSO that was three years in the making. Their multimedia presentation will be the opening feature at our March meeting.

Want to explore the digital world of DX? Larry Lavery, WW2J, will be here to demonstrate MMTTY. MMTTY is a free RTTY software program that uses a PC sound card and does not need to use a terminal unit or TNC. It will run on a simple Pentium class PC running MS Windows 95 or higher. It uses digital signal processing (DSP) to detect and demodulate RTTY signals and generates AFSK/FSK modulation for transmission. Features include spectrum scope and XY scope displays to assist in tuning. Larry will demystify MMTTY by demonstrating the installation, configuration and on-air use of this innovative program. In a recent email, Larry wrote: "Much to my surprise, RTTY is going through a renewed popularity. DX expeditions always include RTTY and there are numerous contests available. I operated one contest and received email afterwards welcoming me to the mode. That has never happened to me since I was first licensed in 1958."

Don't miss it – a double treat. Meet your friends at RARA, Friday, March 2.

(N2EH, continued from page 1)

In 1970 he was elected to the RaRa Board of Directors, a position he would hold for the next 33 years ! In 1972 he was elected President of RaRa. Also in 1972, there was a large storm in Western New York called Hurricane Agnes that resulted in major flooding in the Southern Tier. Answering the call for help for amateur communicators, Ed immediately formed a team of volunteers who left for the stricken area to render assistance where needed. That, then, became the second phase of Ed's life long contribution to the community; public service and emergency communications.

One of the first tests would be when Ed took on the task of providing communications for automobile road rallies. The culmination of which was the huge task of pulling together communications for the STPR Rally in Wellsboro, PA. Early on Ed realized the need for a dedicated RaRa Club station that would also serve as a focus point for emergency training of operators for RACES and ARES.

Through his hard work and dedication he assembled a team of similar visionaries who brought to life the first K2JD club station at 350 W. Henrietta Road, the old Iola site. The station was

dedicated in April, 1978. Recognized for his initiative and can-do attitude, Ed Holdsworth was appointed Emergency Coordinator for Monroe County RACES and thus began phase three of his life long dedication to RaRa. In December of 1981, Ed and his team led the move of K2JD, now club station and official NCS station for RACES and ARES, to the new Monroe County Emergency Operations Center at 111 Westfall Road.

You would think this would be enough dedication to RaRa, but no, let's look at other work going on simultaneously to the public service/emergency leadership. In the early 1980's Ed organized a wonderful team of workers, still going today, who took joy in calling themselves *Holdsworth's Coolies*. It was this group who arrived early at the Dome Arena, facing a huge and very empty building, and converted it into the wonderful *Rochester Hamfest* site that we have all enjoyed so much over the years. And let us not forget the wonderful RaRa camping trips that Ed organized and enjoyed so much, especially because he could involve his wonderful family, his ever tolerant and loving wife, Joyce, and his children of which he did proudly brag about at any opportunity. This writer fondly remembers lugging big machines and seemingly tons of supplies to area hamfests where Ed would lead the *K2JD Engraving Team*. This variation on the *Coolies* theme volunteered their time, paid their way and went to numerous hamfests during the season and made lots of plastic dust while grinding callsign badges with profits given to RaRa.

Along the way Ed was also appointed as Assistance Section Manager for the ARRL Western NY Section. Seeing the need during a difficult time in RaRa's history, in 1982, Ed accepted the nomination for President for the second time. The last official task for Ed, on behalf of RaRa and OEP, was the 2002/2003 move of the OEP from 111 Westfall Road to the current location on Scottsville Road.

It is regrettable that the advancing years were not kind to Ed. Nobody, even those who knew him well, were fully aware of how debilitating his awful illness was and how it affected his decision-making process. Ed finally had to relinquish all of his duties and retire to his much loved, hand built home in Honeoye Falls. It is a credit to Ed, and to RaRa, that he left an organization capable of continuing his work and his spirit. Edwin J. Holdsworth, N2EH, may you rest in peace.

**MemorialScholarship
Application Deadline
April 15, 2007**

For Sale – Tower, with attached House

A 45Ft. ROHN 45 tower is only one of the features attached to a wonderful Colonial style home for sale. The tower presently has a 2M and TV antenna. It previously held a Classic 36/ 6 Element Mosley beam. This center entrance house has been beautifully maintained by original owners for 47 years! HUGE Family Rm, Hardwood floors, 3 Bdrms, 1.5 baths plus half bath in basement, All appliances, 2 car garage, Newer roof and furnace/ A/C, vinyl siding, priced at \$109,900. Call Stan KA2U at 585-342-8775 or Lorelei Smith of Remax at 585-218-6826.

RaRa Rag 20 Years Ago, March 1987

By Ed Gable, K2MP
RARA Club Historian

The February meeting, then held at 8:00 p.m. at the 40/8 Club on University Avenue, featured Mr. David Burke of the Rochester Gas and Electric Company, speaking on preparations for the Ginna Emergency Drill and how RACES will be involved.

In a front page announcement, Newark's *Drumlines Amateur Radio Club* announced their first annual Hamfest to be held at the Marbletown Fire Hall. VE exams were planned and general admission was three dollars. From the Want Ads you could buy an Azden PCS-2000 FM rig for \$175.00 from Joe, K2DHV.

That's it ! The *RaRa Rag* at that time seemed to be going through some problems as the only Rochester area ham news was a couple sentences on the upcoming meeting and K2MP's (now in it's 25th year) "20 years Ago" column. The rest of the 8 pages were all copy from other sources. **Don't let this happen again !** Support your Editor. Write something of local interest happening in Ham Radio - anything. It doesn't have to be earth shaking news and your Editor will even fix your spellign ! He does mine all teh time and makes me look reel good.

(Sorry Ed, not this time. I just couldn't resist).

Reorganization at the AWA Museum

By Ed Gable, K2MP/W2AN
Curator, AWA Museum

With much growth and added activities at the world class A.W.A. Electronic Communication Museum in nearby Bloomfield, New York, the

Museum Trustees recently took several steps at improving operations. The most significant step was the addition of a new position at the museum, that of an Operations Manager. That position was created to spread the work load and allow the current Curator, Ed Gable (K2MP), to have more time to devote to commonly accepted curatorial duties, i.e., taking care of the collection and how it is displayed and made available for study. The new Operations Manager is responsible for the day-by-day operations of the museum, its volunteer work force and museum scheduling. I am delighted to announce that a local ham has accepted this critical position and thus I would like to introduce Ronald Roach, W2FUI, of the Canandaigua area, as the AWA Museum Operations Manager effective immediately. Ron has been a Trustee at the museum since November, 2002, and a volunteer for several more years. A life long resident, Ron is a retired High school teacher and school Administrator and can be heard on the HF bands, SSB and a lot of CW, working DX and contests. Further news from the museum is that plans for the big move are progressing. There is a lot to do in the planning stages prior to the actual moving of "stuff" to the new building. The museum is always looking for volunteers, especially for weekend guides where only a few hours a year will go a long way in helping out. And... it's a whole lot of fun. A new training program makes that a breeze. There are also openings for people who like to keep track of things, like 25,000 artifacts and books and who knows ! Detailed people and not so detailed people who just want to dust off a few radios now and again. (OK, a LOT of radios) You can almost name what you want to do and there is probably a need. Contact Ron or myself and we'll find something of interest for you. Remember, too, the AWA Spring Meet, flea Market, vintage Ham auction and more.... May 5th in Bloomfield. More can be found at:

www.antiquewireless.org

RDXA March Meeting

By Vic Gauvin, K1PY

Remotely Controlled Station Operation at K2DB & K2NNY.

Cramped for antenna space in your back yard? All kinds of antenna covenants and restrictions in your area? Or the even more restrictive ones from the XYL?!! How can we possibly have the kind of station we'd all like with all this blocking us?

Well, the title gives the answer away, but it's still a solution that's not completely out of the realm of possibility. OK, you say, but even if I had a place,

isn't this really beyond the capability of the average ham?

Not that long ago, the answer was a far more resounding yes than it is now. Your geek-quotient had to be really up there, especially on the computer side. But with more and more equipment now having built-in computer interfaces, and with many more computer-based station control devices for the home shack, it's now something that can realistically be considered.

And RDXA member **Paul, K2DB**, decided to do just that. He's slowly been building and improving a station at his camp up in the St. Lawrence Valley for several years now. There's even a group of RDXA folks who regularly trek northeast to put the station on in the multi-operator category as the *Hickory Lake Contest Club*. And being in the Northern New York section, they obtained the call sign **K2NNY**. Needless to say, they are in huge demand during contests like the ARRL Sweepstakes, where each section is a multiplier!

So, with the station finally at a more than capable level, the urge is far stronger to take advantage of all that effort and operate it more. The problem, of course, is that it's several hours away, each way. Well, back to the topic at hand (I know, you've been waiting). Paul decided to check out what it would take to operate the station remotely.

And that's as far as I can take it, because I'm anxiously awaiting, as I hope you now are, for his program at **RDXA** at the March meeting to learn more about it! And to further whet our appetites, the main portion of the presentation will be putting the station *on the air*, live, right from the club meeting room at Gander Mtn.! How cool is that!!!!

Come see and hear! RDXA, Tuesday, March 20th, 19:30 local, Gander Mtn on Jay Scutti Blvd.

RaRa Hotline

(585) 442-0587

24 hours a day

Changes for Public Service

By Keith Freeberg, N2BEL
RARA Public Service Coordinator

I know many of you diligently look over the list of summer time public service events and vow to go home and check the family calendar. Then, perhaps, you have the same problem I do, I might forget the date I heard at the meeting or saw on the sign up sheet.

Let me help. Please drop me an email at n2bel@arrl.net and tell me you'd like a list of all

the events and descriptions. I'll send you a complete listing with all the details I have at the moment. Then just pop me a quick email or phone call to let me know which ones you would like to know more about. I'll get back to you via email or a phone call to fill you in on what you would like to know.

Participating in public service events is easy and the time flies by as you do what you love and love what you do. All events are family friendly too. Your spouse, significant other and children can all get involved and share in the good time you are having. All served agencies value their volunteers and the ones we aligned with are no exception. No matter what you can do to help they deeply appreciate it and it shows.

So, pick up your phone or log into your email account right now and let me know of your interest. There is no obligation involved in just asking for more information.

Spring Amateur Licensing Session

By Brad Armstrong, W1YX
RARA License Class Coordinator

This year's Spring amateur licensing session will be in April and May this year. It promises to be a productive and enjoyable learning experience with the fine instructors who have volunteered their time. The format of the classes is fast paced and helps the students, along with self-study and review, to learn the information needed to pass the exams in short order.

Sessions for new Technician licensees as well as General and Extra upgrade will be offered. Due to the changes in FCC licensing structure, the formal Morse Code session has been discontinued. Those who wish instruction in the Code can contact me to be put in touch with one of our instructors who will teach this skill on a mutually arranged schedule as needed.

Registration will be held on Saturday, April 7th at 9 am. The classes will run from close of registration to 12 that morning and 9 to 12 each Saturday morning through May 12th. There is a possibility that the Extra class will be held on a different evening schedule due to instructor availability. However registration will still be on that Saturday morning. As always, registration fees include only a nominal charge to cover Club costs in presenting the course and a year of membership in the Club. That membership includes a subscription to this fine publication. Each student who needs one can also order and pay for the latest ARRL licensing book for their level at registration.

(License Class continued on Page 6)

(License Class continued from Page 5)

They will be available at the second class and are required for the course.

Updated details of scheduling, classrooms, and fees will continue to be provided on the Club website at <http://www.rochesterham.org>, along with a map of the building location. Click on the link there for 'Amateur Radio License Course' to find all of that and more!

From the Desk of RRRR President

By Brad Allen, KB2CHY
President, RRRR

Its that time of year again... Auction Time! Clean out the shack of some good older working gear and sell it at the RRRR auction on March 16, 2007. With new rule changes as well as the anticipation of increased HF usage, these new HF'ers need guidance as to what to bring. So I ask that everyone coming to the Auction bring a guest who is already a HAM or is seriously looking to become one. Let's show them what we got and help out all the newcomers.

Ed Gable and Dick Goslee will again be our auctioneers and these two able gentlemen will show you how they can sell anything especially if it's bundled with at least one item you just can't be without. All rules for the auction will be posted on the website. Please visit the site at <http://www.rrra.us>.

In January, Max Kessler showed us the new "Members only" page. It is important that as a member you sign up to update the electronic database we are creating in anticipation of the online newsletter. Simply go to the website and click on "How to Join RRRR" and you will find the link there. If it's not there now, there will be a help section. Future enhancements are underway like filling out application and paying membership dues on line using PayPal. We are also attempting to provide streaming video of our meetings for those who cannot make it. We are also working on a "LIVE" broadcast from the meeting hall and that may be the auction. This may all show up on the website or some other provider. Details will be forthcoming.

Keep warm and get on the air whether it be 88 or HF. Now's the time to get that antenna in the air. See you at the meetings.

**Memorial Scholarship
Application Deadline
April 15, 2007**

RaRa Rag 6

Sidebands: Amateur Radio in the News

By Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY
RARA Media Coordinator

Websites of the Month: While browsing the web, I came across a couple of interesting sites. The K1DWU site [<http://ham-links.k1dwu.net/>] has links to over 4500 ham web pages. These sites are verified each day. The KB6NU page [<http://kb6nu.com/map-your-qsos/>] demonstrates a method of mapping QSOs.

Ham Radio Astronauts Team Up for Spacewalk: Commander Michael Lopez-Alegria, KE5GTK, and Flight Engineer Suni Williams, KD5PLB teamed up for the second of three planned spacewalks on Sunday February 4. These EVAs involved several maintenance projects on the ISS. For Lopez-Alegria, it was his 10th spacewalk, the most of any astronaut. For Williams, it was her 4th excursion which is the most of any female astronaut.

The Governor is a Ham: Governor John Baldacci of Maine, KB1NXP, is a busy man with barely any time to relax. Despite his hectic schedule he manages to squeeze in time to take part in ham radio activities. The Governor's interest in ham radio began in 1998 during a winter storm. He also is interested in DX. Where does he keep the radio in his office? It is right next to the Homeland Security phone and the red phone for state emergencies. [WCSH Channel 6 Portland ME]

High School Student Involved Public Service: Senior Matthew Stephenson, 18, KE5ETC, first became interested in ham radio when his parents took him to a Garland Amateur Radio Club meeting. Matthew participates in RACES. According to Matthew "It's all volunteer-based, and it's a lot of fun. We do everything from tracking tornadic activity to spotting hail and storm clouds. We're extra eyes and ears for the police and fire departments." His motivation is not simply making friends. As Matthew put it, "I always carry a radio with an extra set of batteries in my backpack just in case something were to happen, and all cell phones were gone, and the electricity's out. I'm ready to go to help out, at school, in case something were to ever happen in the building." Matthew is active with RACES with his parents. [Dallas Morning News]

Michigan Ham Always Ready to Assist in Emergencies: Don Meyer, KB8ODB, has made important contributions to the safety and emergency

response in Ottawa County [MI]. He played a central role in establishing a ham radio station in the county's Central Dispatch Center in Grand Haven. He has been ready on a moment's notice to respond. For example in May 1998 a severe windstorm caused extensive damage in the county. He received a 20-minute advanced warning of the storm and was in the dispatch center in 5 minutes. Meyer noted that he sleeps with a cell phone and pager, in case Central Dispatch has to alert him in the event that hams are needed to assist in emergency communications, such as during storms or for search-and-rescue efforts. According to Meyer, "One thing that has been proven is, when a disaster hits, ham radio operators are there to help provide communications. A ham in Michigan can provide communications help for an area hundreds of miles away that has been devastated, lost all means of telephones, by relaying messages of need to officials that can provide help from adjacent areas — and this happens all the time." [Grand Haven Tribune]

KiwiSAT Status Update: The New Zealand Amateur Satellite organization, AMSAT-NZ, has published a KiwiSAT status update on their website [<http://www.kiwisat.org.nz/status.html>]. The satellite will carry a number of payloads including an amateur radio 70cm to 2 meter Linear Transponder. It could be launched on a DNEPR rocket in mid to late 2008. The website says, "The aim remains to get a complete satellite together and then pour everything we have got into finding sponsors to fund the Solar Cells and after that — the launch." The sums that still need to be raised are substantial, for instance, \$NZ 56,000 just for the solar panels.

Generations of Hams: A family from Carrollton, Texas, has three members who are ham radio operators. The youngest is Rachel Johnson, 10, KE5LTB. She also is the youngest member of the Metrocrest ARC. "I think it's really fun. I get to play around with the gear and get to hang out with other ham operators," Rachel said. Her dad, Randy, is W5WZY, and her mom, Melanie, is W5WZZ. Melanie Johnson's parents were hams, too, and she and her husband have her parents' calls. "Her daddy wanted her to do it, and ever since it has been a father-daughter thing," said Melanie Johnson. Her fellow club members have suggested phonetics for her call, "Little Teddy Bear". [Dallas Morning News]

Absolutely Bizarre Department: This odd and tragic news story has created a media frenzy, if not a circus. Astronaut Lisa Nowak, KC5ZTB, was

arrested in Florida and charged with attempted first degree murder, attempted kidnapping, and lesser charges. The Navy captain had been allegedly involved in a romantic relationship with fellow astronaut Navy Commander William Oefelein. Nowak drove from Houston to Florida and confronted Colleen Shipman, a NASA engineer, who is an alleged romantic rival involved with Oefelein. Police reported that weapons were found in Nowack's bag. She was to be released on bond with the requirement that she wear a GPS unit and return to Houston. Nowack, 43, flew a shuttle mission last July. She is married with three children. Despite all the media attention, there has been no mention, as of this writing, that she is a ham licensee. [TWIAR International]

NO "CODE-FREE" UPGRADES AVAILABLE UNTIL FEBRUARY 23

Code-free upgrades to General or Amateur Extra will not be available at volunteer examination sessions until the 5 WPM Morse code requirement disappears from the FCC's Amateur Radio Service rules on February 23. ARRL

Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND, says that, judging from the questions he's been getting, many in the amateur community -- including some Volunteer Examiners (VEs) -- don't fully understand the new rules and privileges resulting from the FCC's Report and Order (R&O) in the "Morse code proceeding," WT Docket 05-235

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmate/h/FCC-06-178A1.pdf. He stresses that VE teams may not accept upgrade applications in advance of February 23, then hold the paperwork. "There will be no automatic midnight upgrades February 23 for applicants advancing to General or Amateur Extra," Henderson explained. "You must make application." He further advises that a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) valid for Element 3 (General) or Element 4 (Amateur Extra) credit does not confer any operating privileges and, lacking Morse code credit, is no good for an upgrade until the new rules become effective. "Anyone holding or earning a valid CSCE for element credit must wait until February 23 to redeem it at a volunteer examination session," he says. "You may not operate as /AG or /AE until you have upgraded and have been issued a CSCE marked for upgrade." A CSCE is good for 365 days from the date of issuance, no exceptions.

(Code Free Upgrades, Continued on Page 8)

Henderson also emphasizes that those who qualified as Technician licensees under the examination regime in place from March 21, 1987, until April 15, 2000, do not get General class Element 3 credit on that basis. For starters, he said, the "old" Element 3 is not the same as the current Element 3. "When the Novice and Advanced examination elements went away, the FCC renumbered the elements," he pointed out. "Those who passed Element 3 from March 21, 1987 until April 15, 2000, qualified for the Technician license, and the exam was not the same as the current Element 3 General element test."

Applicants upgrading at a test session on or after February 23 on the basis of a valid CSCE must present the certificate for element credit, fill out an application and pay any applicable exam session fee, which most VECs charge. Between now and then, Henderson points out, upgrade applicants still have the option of passing the 5 WPM Element 1 Morse code test in addition to the General or Amateur Extra written tests. Technician licensees who have not passed a Morse code examination automatically gain new privileges on February 23, without having to apply at an exam session. But they're the only ones. On that date, all Novices and Technicians will have equal privileges on HF: CW on parts of 80, 40 and 15 meters, and CW, SSB and data on parts of 10 meters. No other license classes get automatic upgrades or new privileges on February 23. The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC) reports that business has been very brisk since the FCC announced the new rules dropping the Morse requirement for any Amateur Radio license. "We're avalanched," said Assistant ARRL VEC Manager Perry Green, WY1O. "Sessions are going onto the schedule fast and furious. They're all waiting for that magic date of February 23." ARRL VEC has hired extra personnel to deal with the anticipated post-February 23 application onslaught.

The ARRL has posted all relevant information on these important Part 97 rule revisions on its "FCC's Morse Code Report and Order WT Docket 05-235" Web page <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/morse/>.

(tnx to ARRL Letter, Vol 26 #6)

Scholarship Deadline Coming

By George Masny, KA2GPJ
Treasurer, RARA

Just a reminder that the "Rochester Amateur Radio Association Memorial Scholarship" deadline is fast approaching. The Scholarship was established with generous donations made in memory of A. Leland Zwack, W2WPF; William

Buchan, W2OMV and William Resch, K4VOS. The scholarship is available to any licensed Amateur Radio operator who is or will be pursuing any degree of Associate level or higher in any accredited school beyond high school. The individual must be a member of RARA and a resident of New York State. The scholarship is for one individual in one year, but the recipient may reapply for subsequent years.

March Calendar of events

- 2 - RaRa General Meeting - 7:30 PM -
Henrietta Fire Hall, 3129 East Henrietta Road
- 4 - Greater Buffalo Winter Hamfest, Fireman's
Hall, 6777 Main St, Williamsville, NY
- 8 - RaRa Board of Directors - 5:00 PM - RIT
Bldg-17, Room 2110
- 9 - RVHFG - 7:30 PM, monthly meeting at
Ogden Town Hall, 269 Ogden Center Rd.
- 16 - RRRA - 8:00 PM, Annual Auction at
Pittsford Town Hall, basement meeting room.
- 17 - RaRa VE Testing session - 10:00 AM Bldg-9
Room-3139 RIT Campus, Henrietta
- 20 - RDXA - 7:30 PM, Monthly meeting at Gander
Mountain, Jay Scutti Blvd, Henrietta
- 22 - ARES - 7:00 PM, regular meeting at Red
Cross Headquarters, 50 Prince St.

RaRa Amateur Radio License Testing

**All Elements needed
to complete a license class.**

**3rd Saturday of each
Month, Sept. - April**

**Registration - 10:00AM
Testing - 10:15AM**

**Room 3139, Building 9
(Park in Lot J)**

**Rochester Institute of Technology
1 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623**

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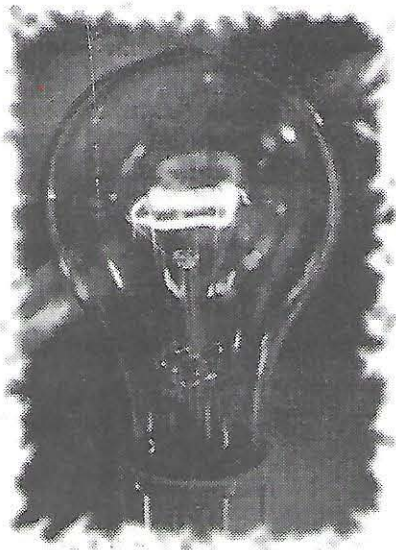
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